

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

01  
1. (Twice Amended) An erasable aqueous ink composition comprising at least one colorant and at least one film-forming resin, wherein said colorant has a mean particle size of 2 to 7  $\mu\text{m}$  and wherein particles having a size of not more than 1.8  $\mu\text{m}$  account for not more than 1.6% by weight of said colorant and wherein particles having a size of not less than 7  $\mu\text{m}$  account for not more than 0.5% by weight of said colorant.

Please add the following new claims:

02  
14. (New) An erasable aqueous ink composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the content of the film forming resin in said ink composition is not more than 25% by weight.

15. (New) A water-base ballpoint pen comprising an ink composition according to claim 14.